

CENSUS

UNITED STATES FOREIGN TRADE

SUMMARY REPORT
FT 930-I

SEPTEMBER 1959

FOR RELEASE
November 10, 1959

IMPORT TRADE BY COMMODITY

The Bureau of the Census, Department of Commerce, announced today that the increase in United States imports for consumption from \$1,190.7 million in August to the record total of \$1,348.7 million¹ in September, a gain of about 13 percent, reflected substantial increases in imports of all of the economic classes of commodities. September 1959 imports for consumption were at a level about 26 percent higher than those of September 1958 when the total was \$1,071.7 million.

It was pointed out by the Bureau that the imports for consumption total for the first three quarters of 1959 (January--September) amounted to \$11,089.1 million and represented an increase of about 19 percent over the January -- September 1958 total \$9,314.4 million.

The increase in imports of finished manufactures from \$403.1 million in August to \$456.3 million in September was largely the result of small advances in imports of many of the individual items included in the class. The more noticeable of these were as follows: automobiles and parts, from \$58.2 to \$63.7 million; newsprint, from \$54.9 to \$58.8 million; and

American goods returned, from \$18.8 to \$26.4 million. Imports of crude foodstuffs, boosted by a sizable increase in imports of coffee, from \$99.5 to \$136.7 million, and a lesser rise in imports of cocoa beans, from \$9.4 to \$14.4 million, rose from \$144.9 to \$190.6 million. The increase in imports of manufactured foodstuffs from \$137.0 to \$162.9 million was due in part to gains in imports of meat products, from \$34.9 to \$41.7 million, and whisky, from \$14.4 to \$18.7 million.

During the period, imports of semimanufactures climbed from \$253.8 to \$274.3 million. This increase was largely the result of increases in imports of copper, from \$14.4 to \$25.4 million; gas and fuel oil, from \$25.9 to \$32.3 million; tin, from \$6.7 to \$10.1 million; and iron and steel semimanufactures, from \$20.0 to \$23.3 million. However, imports of aluminum, also included in this economic class, dropped from \$18.3 to \$10.5 million. In spite of appreciable declines in imports of unmanufactured cotton, from \$16.5 to \$3.5 million, and rough or uncut diamonds, from \$10.0 to \$5.1 million, imports of crude materials rose from \$251.8 to \$264.6 million. The over-all increase in the dollar value of imports of this economic class resulted primarily from small increases in imports of most of the other commodities included in the class. The more noticeable of these were iron ore and concentrates, from \$27.6 to \$33.6 million; tin, from \$0.1 to \$5.5 million; wool, from \$8.3 to \$12.8 million; hides and skins, from \$5.6 to \$9.2 million; and crude rubber from \$32.2 to \$35.3 million.

¹ In anticipation of the longshoremen's strike which started October 1, some import entries which would have normally been filed in October and included in October statistics were filed in September and included in September statistics. Information on the extent to which this "inflated" the September import figures is not available.

EXPLANATION OF STATISTICS

COVERAGE: Import statistics include merchandise imported by government agencies as well as by private importers, but exclude American goods returned by the United States armed forces for their own use. United States trade with Puerto Rico, Hawaii, and United States possessions is not included in this report, but the import trade of Puerto Rico and Hawaii with foreign countries is included as a part of the United States import trade. Merchandise shipped in-transit through the United States between foreign countries is not included in import statistics.

VALUATION: Import values are, in general, based on market price or selling price, and are, in general, f.o.b. the exporting country. Import values also exclude United States import duties. None of the values have been adjusted for changes in price level.

EFFECT OF SAMPLING: Effective January 1958 formal entry shipments valued less than \$100 and informal entry shipments valued \$250 or less (less than one percent of total import value) are estimated by

sampling. These estimated values are shown in this table as "Estimated value \$1-\$99 formal and \$1-\$250 informal entry shipments" and are arbitrarily included in the total for "Finished manufactures". Prior to 1958 all imports valued \$250 or less whether reported on formal or informal entries were estimated by sampling and were shown separately by economic class. For convenience these estimates for 1957 are now included in the "All other" category for each economic class. For an indication of the effect the change in coverage and the change in presentation of sampled transactions have on the economic classes and commodity totals shown in this report effective with data for 1958, see the January 1958 issue of FT 930-I.

Further information regarding coverage, valuation, etc., is contained in the "General Explanation" in foreword of Report No. FT 110. For complete statement, see the foreword in Foreign Commerce and Navigation of the United States.

UNITED STATES IMPORTS FOR CONSUMPTION OF MERCHANDISE, BY ECONOMIC CLASSES AND LEADING COMMODITIES:
SEPTEMBER 1959 AND SELECTED PERIODS

(Quantity in units indicated; value in millions of dollars. Imports for consumption are a total of imports for immediate consumption plus withdrawals for consumption from bonded warehouses. Figures for 1959 are as originally issued and have not been revised to include published corrections. Figures for 1958 include revisions published with the December 1958 reports, or earlier, but do not include revisions published during 1959. Totals represent sum of unrounded figures, hence may vary slightly from sum of rounded amounts. See the "Explanation of Statistics" for information on sampling procedures and effect thereof on data shown.)

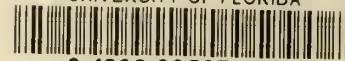
Economic class and commodity	September 1959	August 1959	September 1958	Monthly average	
				1958	1957
Total.....value..	1,348.7	1,190.7	1,071.7	1,061.2	1,079.2
Free.....value..	553.8	459.6	413.4	444.6	503.0
Dutiable.....value..	794.8	731.1	658.3	616.6	576.2
Crude materials.....value..	264.6	251.8	238.8	230.2	267.6
Hides and skins.....value..	9.2	5.6	3.5	4.5	4.1
Undressed furs.....value..	4.3	3.0	3.9	6.7	6.6
Crude rubber.....1,000,000 lb..	108	102	93	89	104
value..	35.3	32.2	20.4	20.9	29.4
Copra.....1,000 lb..	61,588	67,012	65,238	50,102	53,713
value..	5.4	6.4	5.1	4.0	3.4
Tobacco, unmanufactured.....1,000 lb..	11,698	13,324	12,326	11,548	10,345
value..	8.9	9.7	9.3	8.7	8.0
Cotton, unmanufactured.....1,000 lb..	19,218	53,145	22,128	12,190	13,692
value..	3.5	16.5	4.0	2.5	5.2
Jute and jute butts.....long tons..	4,068	2,547	177	3,121	4,977
value..	0.4	0.3	(*)	0.7	1.2
Sisal and henequen.....long tons..	11,773	10,868	8,140	16,306	10,409
value..	1.8	1.8	1.1	1.4	1.5
Wool, unmanufactured, free.....(1,000,000 lb.)..actual weight..	23	16	13	13	14
clean content ² ..	18	12	10	10	10
value..	12.8	8.3	5.8	6.6	8.5
Wool, unmanufactured, dutiable.....(1,000,000 lb.)..actual weight..	10	10	7	9	10
clean content ² ..	7	7	5	6	7
value..	7.9	6.4	5.5	7.1	9.1
Pulpwood.....1,000 cords..	149	104	148	114	147
value..	3.3	2.8	3.4	2.4	3.0
Crude petroleum.....1,000 bbl..	31,863	29,644	33,552	31,977	32,150
value..	69.6	66.8	80.5	78.3	81.7
Diamonds, rough or uncut.....1,000 carats..	133	166	105	94	83
value..	5.1	10.0	8.0	6.0	6.4
Diamonds, for industrial use.....1,000 carats..	1,018	536	992	839	1,051
value..	5.2	2.8	3.7	3.3	4.3
Iron ore and concentrates.....1,000 long tons..	3,802	3,182	2,863	2,294	2,806
value..	33.6	27.6	24.1	19.3	23.8
Ferroalloying ores.....value..	6.4	8.7	10.3	11.4	18.5
Copper (copper content).....1,000 lb..	4,197	15,007	5,041	16,884	18,994
value..	1.3	4.3	1.2	3.8	5.5
Lead (lead content).....1,000 lb..	7,390	11,291	46,414	40,377	39,676
value..	0.7	1.0	3.6	4.3	5.3
Tin (tin content).....long tons..	2,454	61	...	455	8
value..	5.5	0.1	(*)	0.9	(*)
Zinc (zinc content).....1,000 lb..	18,641	62,270	217,382	90,236	113,656
value..	0.7	2.4	8.8	4.3	7.4
Other nonferrous ores and concentrates.....value..	5.9	6.2	6.2	6.2	6.0
All other crude materials ³value..	37.7	29.0	30.3	26.9	28.7
Crude foodstuffs.....value..	190.6	144.9	137.3	161.4	168.4
Fish and shellfish.....1,000 lb..	53,348	47,470	47,370	39,847	32,738
value..	12.9	11.6	13.6	12.2	10.2
Cattle, except for breeding.....thousands..	22	22	93	94	59
value..	2.6	3.0	12.2	10.8	5.5
Grains.....value..	3.4	2.0	2.3	4.2	5.8
Vegetables, fresh and dried.....value..	1.2	1.1	0.9	3.8	2.2
Bananas.....1,000 bunches..	4,085	3,937	3,744	4,064	3,976
value..	5.9	5.4	5.3	5.8	5.8
Cocoa or cacao beans.....1,000,000 lb..	42	28	14	37	43
value..	14.4	9.4	6.2	14.4	11.2
Coffee, raw or green.....1,000,000 lb..	403	286	196	222	230
value..	136.7	99.5	83.5	97.5	114.7
Tea.....1,000 lb..	7,264	8,228	7,278	8,618	8,536
value..	3.4	3.7	3.4	4.0	4.2
Black pepper, unground.....1,000 lb..	3,339	2,330	4,168	2,889	2,713
value..	0.8	0.6	1.0	0.6	0.6
All other crude foodstuffs ³value..	9.3	8.7	8.8	8.1	8.1

See footnotes at end of table.

UNITED STATES IMPORTS FOR CONSUMPTION OF MERCHANDISE, BY ECONOMIC CLASSES AND LEADING COMMODITIES:
SEPTEMBER 1959 AND SELECTED PERIODS--Continued

Economic class and commodity	September 1959	August 1959	September 1958	Monthly average	
				1958	1957
Manufactured foodstuffs.....value..	162.9	137.0	131.1	125.4	106.0
Meat products.....1,000 lb..	107,903	87,863	82,966	70,817	34,084
value..	41.7	34.9	31.1	27.9	15.3
Cheese.....1,000 lb..	6,724	3,614	4,197	4,645	4,240
value..	3.5	1.8	2.0	2.3	2.2
Fish and shellfish canned, prepared, etc.....1,000 lb..	42,185	38,442	45,321	39,886	37,175
value..	12.8	11.0	12.0	11.0	10.6
Fodders and feeds.....value..	1.0	1.0	1.6	1.8	1.7
Cane sugar.....1,000,000 lb..	913	875	777	772	690
value..	50.5	48.3	43.5	43.3	38.3
Molasses.....1,000 gal..	23,884	25,829	14,763	28,698	20,076
value..	3.0	3.0	1.9	3.7	3.3
Whisky.....value..	18.7	14.4	15.3	13.2	12.5
All other manufactured foodstuffs ³value..	31.6	22.6	23.7	22.2	22.2
Semimanufactures.....value..	274.3	253.8	236.8	220.1	243.3
Leather.....value..	4.5	4.2	2.7	2.6	2.6
Bristles.....1,000 lb..	353	350	176	200	208
value..	0.6	0.7	0.4	0.5	0.6
Expressed oils, inedible.....value..	4.9	4.6	4.8	4.1	4.2
Quebracho.....1,000 lb..	11,744	8,396	4,117	9,300	10,296
value..	1.0	0.7	0.3	0.7	0.8
Wool semimanufactures.....value..	5.0	5.2	3.4	3.7	4.0
Sawed boards, planks, deals, etc.....1,000,000 bd. ft..	315	372	391	283	245
value..	27.2	31.1	30.7	21.8	20.2
Wood pulp.....1,000 short tons..	192	190	194	175	175
value..	24.5	25.2	24.7	23.1	22.8
Gas and fuel oil.....1,000 bbl..	15,925	12,523	14,333	17,566	15,431
value..	32.3	25.9	34.0	41.6	41.4
Asbestos.....long tons..	52,007	47,297	61,630	43,706	46,670
value..	5.0	4.4	6.0	4.0	4.2
Diamonds, cut but not set.....1,000 carats..	101	55	69	60	51
value..	9.3	5.8	7.1	5.7	5.5
Iron and steel semimanufactures.....value..	23.3	20.0	9.5	7.5	4.8
Aluminum.....value..	10.5	18.3	22.5	11.8	10.8
Copper (copper content).....1,000,000 lb..	84	47	17	56	79
value..	25.4	14.4	4.2	13.7	23.7
Lead (lead content).....1,000 lb..	21,308	40,123	77,352	61,166	56,519
value..	3.4	5.0	7.6	6.6	7.6
Nickel and alloys.....1,000 lb..	18,441	19,652	22,781	15,448	23,133
value..	12.0	12.7	14.5	10.2	16.8
Tin.....1,000 lb..	9,947	6,783	8,899	8,275	11,422
value..	10.1	6.7	8.2	7.5	10.9
Zinc.....1,000 lb..	25,257	17,538	41,941	31,111	44,907
value..	2.7	1.8	3.9	2.9	5.4
Coal-tar products.....value..	5.6	5.2	3.4	3.9	3.9
Industrial chemicals.....value..	7.4	7.7	5.6	6.0	5.8
Fertilizers and materials.....1,000 short tons..	215	234	154	128	132
value..	7.5	6.5	6.4	4.9	5.0
All other semimanufactures ³value..	52.2	47.5	36.8	37.2	42.5
Finished manufactures.....value..	456.3	403.1	327.8	324.2	293.9
Leather manufactures.....value..	9.3	9.1	6.5	5.1	4.0
Essential or distilled oils.....value..	1.9	1.3	1.4	1.3	1.7
Cotton cloth.....1,000 sq. yd..	20,349	17,244	11,406	11,795	10,208
value..	4.1	3.4	3.1	3.2	2.9
Other cotton manufactures.....value..	13.7	13.5	10.8	9.3	8.1
Burlap.....1,000 yd..	76,141	76,841	81,674	70,910	71,349
1,000 lb..	44,269	45,399	47,630	40,641	41,253
value..	7.4	7.1	7.4	6.3	6.7
Flax, hemp and ramie manufactures.....value..	3.0	2.2	2.8	2.3	2.5
Wool manufactures.....value..	16.4	15.1	8.8	10.9	11.3
Silk manufactures.....value..	7.1	6.7	5.6	4.8	4.7
Shingles.....1,000 squares..	91	62	221	178	159
value..	0.9	0.7	2.0	1.6	1.6
Newsprint.....1,000 short tons..	462	434	392	407	435
value..	58.8	54.9	48.7	51.3	54.8
Other paper manufactures.....value..	7.6	6.2	5.0	5.0	4.9
Pottery.....value..	6.3	4.8	4.5	3.9	3.7

See footnotes at end of table.



UNITED STATES IMPORTS FOR CONSUMPTION OF MERCHANDISE, BY ECONOMIC CLASSES AND LEADING COMMODITIES
SEPTEMBER 1959 AND SELECTED PERIODS--Continued

Economic class and commodity	September 1959	August 1959	September 1958	Monthly average	
				1958	1957
Finished manufactures—Continued					
Steel mill products.....value..	31.2	29.1	13.6	13.4	14.7
Iron and steel advanced manufactures.....value..	10.0	8.5	5.9	6.4	6.1
Agricultural machinery and implements.....value..	8.8	9.8	6.3	10.2	6.6
Automobiles and parts.....value..	63.7	58.2	41.8	46.0	28.1
Other machinery.....value..	44.6	37.9	28.2	28.8	28.1
Vehicles, except automobiles.....value..	9.4	9.6	17.9	10.5	8.0
Photographic goods.....value..	4.8	4.7	3.6	3.4	3.3
Scientific and professional instruments.....value..	3.5	2.7	2.5	2.4	2.2
Musical instruments and parts.....value..	3.3	2.3	1.8	1.6	1.7
Toys and sporting goods.....value..	6.1	5.1	4.2	3.4	3.5
Watches and watch movements, except parts.....value..	6.0	4.3	5.2	3.9	4.7
American goods returned.....value..	26.4	18.8	19.8	16.6	15.8
All other finished manufactures ³value..	90.1	76.2	62.5	64.4	64.1
Estimated value \$1-\$99 formal and \$1-\$250 informal entry shipments ³value..	12.0	10.7	7.9	8.3	xxx

*Indicates less than \$50,000.

¹See footnote one on front page of this report.

²Includes the actual weight of carbonized wool.

³For an explanation of the sampling procedures, see "Effect of Sampling" on front page.